

Chapter 3: Regional Planning

In the final Regional Haze rule published on July 1, 1999, EPA recognized the value of multistate coordination for regional haze program planning because of regional pollutant transport. By following the example of the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP), EPA encouraged States to work together to accomplish the goal set by the rule.

Five RPOs were eventually formed. They are outlined in Figure 3.1 below. Louisiana is a member of the CENRAP along with Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas. CENRAP covers portions of EPA Regions 5, 6 and 7.

Figure 3.1 Geographical Areas of Regional Planning Organizations



The governing body of CENRAP is the Policy Oversight Group (POG). The POG is made up of 18 voting members representing the states and tribes within the

CENRAP region and non-voting members representing local agencies, the EPA, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and National Park Service. The POG facilitates communication with Federal Land Managers, stakeholders, the public, and with CENRAP staff.

Since its inception, CENRAP has established an active committee structure to address both technical and non-technical issues related to regional haze. The work of CENRAP is accomplished through five standing workgroups: Monitoring; Emission Inventory; Modeling; Communications; and Implementation and Control Strategies. Participation in workgroups is open to all interested parties. Ad hoc workgroups may be formed by the POG to address specific issues. Ultimately, policy decisions are made by the CENRAP POG.

CENRAP has adopted the approach that the Regional Haze Rule requires the “States to establish goals and emission reduction strategies for improving visibility in all 156 mandatory Class I parks and wilderness areas.” The rule also encourages states and tribes to work together in regional partnerships.

This SIP utilizes data analysis, modeling results and other technical support documents prepared for CENRAP members. By coordinating with CENRAP and other RPOs, Louisiana has worked to ensure that its long term strategy and BART determinations provide reductions to mitigate impacts of sources from Louisiana on affected Class I areas. Data analyses, modeling results and other technical support documents are provided to CENRAP members through either CENRAP’s website or through a protocol (ftp) that allows users to copy files between their local system and CENRAP’s system.